GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1911
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2000
DELAY IN MEDICAL HELP
SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of delay made in rushing of medical aid at accident site;

(b) if so, whether any study has been made to improve efficiency in dealing with accidents and providing immediate relief;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) No, Sir. The rescue and relief trains are rushed without delay. However, some times there may be some delay in reaching the spot due to inaccessibility of the site of accident or due to the journey time when the site is far away.

(b) Yes, Sir. For every passenger train accident involving passenger casualties it is mandatory to hold an inquiry by Commissioner Railway Safety (CRS) or by a senior Railway Officer if there is no passenger casualty.No cases are disposed of without an inquiry. It is necessary to record the time of receipt of information, departure of medical team, arrival at the site of accident and details regarding follow up of injured. Corrective measures, if any, are taken after each inquiry and details are circulated to all heads of the departments for needful action whenever necessary.

In addition to above a database of non-railway medical facilities in the vicinity of Railway tracks has been compiled which will enable the Railways to seek the help of such organizations in emergencies at the time of need even before the arrival of Railway Rescue and Relief Teams particularly when the accident site is located away from Railway Medical Establishments or when the same is inaccessible for any reason.

(c) and (d) Improvement of the system is a continuous process and after each accident the details of rescue and relief measures are analysed for their adequacy, promptness etc. and corrective measures, if any, are taken expeditiously.